

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
COLORADO STATE OFFICE
2850 YOUNGFIELD STREET
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO 80215-7093**

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To: Field Office Managers, San Juan Public Land Center, Uncompahgre,
Gunnison

From: Deputy State Director, Division of Resource & Fire Management

Subject: Anasazi Heritage Center Curation Policy for the San Juan Public Land Center,
Uncompahgre and Gunnison Field Offices

Program Area: Cultural Resources

Purpose: The Anasazi Heritage Center (AHC) is the designated curation facility for the San Juan Public Land Center including Canyon of the Ancients National Monument, Gunnison Field Office, and the Uncompahgre Field Office within the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Colorado. The AHC attempts to assist all these offices, and statewide requests, when called upon, in addressing a variety of curatorial issues. Each field office generates collections and associated documentation that ultimately are stored at the AHC from in-house projects, cooperative and contractual agreements, and Section 106 work by permittees. Permittees are required to hold a curation agreement with the AHC, and they are charged a curation fee for these collections. The AHC policy for collections generated from field offices is described in the following three scenarios.

1. Collections made as the result of in-house projects generated by staff and seasonals.

Collections are received throughout the year from the field offices. These collections are generally small in quantity. The AHC routinely accepts these materials as they are delivered to the AHC. The AHC will provide plastic bags to the field offices for packaging these collections. All of these collections are immediately accessioned into the AHC data base upon receipt. As time permits, these collections are systematically entered into the ARGUS data base by AHC staff. The annual volume of these collections should not exceed five cubic feet or ten standard AHC boxes per field office. Above this threshold, field offices will be charged the standard curation fee charge (\$250/AHC standard box or \$500/cubic foot).

2. Collections resulting from cooperative agreements, cost-share projects or other grant-funded projects where BLM is working cooperatively with a non-profit organization.

Collections are typically generated by non-profit groups engaged in cooperative efforts that benefit both the non-profit and BLM. Funding for these projects is usually from an outside source, such as a granting agency or foundation. In many cases, BLM would like to provide the curation cost as a match for the grant. The AHC would like to be involved in the early planning stages of these types of projects so that we can help identify possible sources of funds to cover the cost of curation. In all of these cases, grant applications should include, at a minimum, all costs of supplies to process the collection including storage boxes, bags, specialized containers, and acid-free products for the storage of project documentation. Many granting agencies and foundations will cover the actual curation fees (at the AHC this is \$250/box or \$500/cubic foot). When this is not the case, the cost of generating an electronic data base can normally be covered by grant funds. In either case, the cost of converting an existing analytical electronic data base or completing the data entry in the AHC's ARGUS data base must be taken into consideration. This latter can be accomplished as simply as funding an intern to complete the data entry (\$100/week). The AHC can assist with determining the costs for curation fees, packaging, and data entry and data conversions so that this funding can be taken into consideration in the project development and grant writing process.

3. Collections generated as the result of contracts issued to private archaeological consulting firms who assist BLM with the completion of Section 106 work.

Without exception, all private, for-profit consulting firms (including entities working under contract to the BLM) will bear the cost of curation for collections generated in this matter. Ultimately, the benefiting program or company will absorb the full cost of archaeological mitigation, including curation. In this instance, it is again critical that, if BLM is issuing a contract to a private firm to mitigate impacts to cultural resources on the behalf of BLM for land exchanges or other kinds of undertakings, curation costs be included in the cost of the contract.

Contact: Please direct questions regarding this IB to Dan Haas, Deputy Preservation Officer, Colorado State Office, at (303) 239-3647, or Dan_Haas@co.blm.gov.

Signed by:
David H. Strunk
Acting Deputy State Director,
Resource and Fire Management

Authenticated by:
Cathy Cooney
Branch of IRM & Access